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EXAMINER

BLACKWELL, JAMES H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/591,986

Applicant(s)

SINGHAL ET AL.

Examiner

James H. Blackwell

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 12-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 12-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 June 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the Amendment received 04/08/2005, which was in response to Office Action mailed 01/05/2005.
2. Claims 1-10, and 12-36 remain pending.
3. Claims 1, 28, 29, 30, 33 and 36 have been amended.
4. Claim 11 has been canceled by Applicant.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-2, 8-9, 12-13, 21-22, 24-25, and 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bourne et al. (hereinafter, Bourne, U.S. Patent No. 6,584,548) in view of Schloss et al. (hereinafter Schloss, U.S. Patent No. 6,249,844).

In regard to independent Claim 1, Bourne teaches (a) receiving a data page (Fig. 7, item 706). It is noted that the fragment taught by Bourne is a part or all of a rendered HTML page, which can be cached (Col. 8, lines 32-33) suggesting to one of ordinary skill in the art that an entire HTML page can be cached in the system of Bourne.

Bourne also teaches *dependency data that contains one or more dependencies such that each dependency indicates an underlying data source which the said data page is dependent on* in that a cache coordinator that invalidates one or more cache entries in response to a signal (event). The cache entry is associated with an ID that uniquely identifies the cache entry and can optionally be associated with one or more data IDs that represent the underlying data contained in the cache entry (see Abstract). In this way, the teaching of Bourne offers the option of acting on dependency data within the data page using a unique ID that relates that data within the page to the cache coordinator.

Bourne fails to explicitly teach *b) storing said data page; (c) storing said page dependency data*. However, Schloss teaches that in step (720), the computing node waits for the object requested. In step (725), after receiving the object, the object parser (with details described with reference to Fig. 8) is invoked to analyze the object description and create fragments. In step (730), the object description, which may have been modified by the object parser, is sent back to the requester. In step (735), the object cache manager is invoked to determine whether the object description (which may have been modified by the object parser) should be cached in the object cache (Col. 6, lines 37-46). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne and Schloss as both inventions relate to caching. Adding the teaching of Schloss provides the benefit of retaining cached information for future actions.

Bourne continues by teaching (d) *receiving an event* in that a cache coordinator that invalidates one or more cache entries in response to a signal (event). The cache entry is associated with an ID that uniquely identifies the cache entry and can optionally be associated with one or more data IDs that represent the underlying data contained in the cache entry (see Abstract). In this way, the teaching of Bourne offers the option of acting on dependency data within the data page using a unique ID that relates that data within the page to the cache coordinator.

Bourne also teaches (e) *determining if said event changes an underlying data source corresponding to one of said page dependency data* in that once the signal (event) is received, a signal is sent to the cache coordinator to invalidate all cache entries that either have a cache entry ID or have been associated with a data ID when the data that the ID represents changes (see Abstract). Thus, the cache coordinator makes a determination about which cache entries get invalidated, based on the IDs of the cache entries. By invalidating items in the cache, the cache is updated as claimed in step (f).

In regard to dependent Claim 2, Bourne teaches *said page dependency data are written in HTML or XML* in that it is primarily concerned with caching web content (see Fig. 2).

In regard to dependent Claim 8, neither Bourne nor Schloss teaches that *said page dependency data are manually encoded into a data file*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to realize that one would have been able to edit a web file and manually enter the dependencies in several

ways such as placing them in the header, in view of Bourne and Schloss's inventions because this would have provided the benefit of less processing on the file, as dependencies would not have needed to be computed.

In regard to dependent Claim 9, Bourne teaches that *said data page and said data page dependency data are stored in one or more files* in that Bourne suggests caching fragments of HTML pages which would effectively require storage of each fragment in separate files (at least in the cache). The page is fragmented so that dependencies that change at different rates can be dealt with individually (Col. 8, lines 32-49).

In regard to dependent Claim 12, neither Bourne nor Schloss teaches that *said event is received incorporated in an event message*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to flag an event in the form of a message, in view of Bourne and Schloss's inventions, because it would have been a good way to communicate between system components using a well established mechanism like electronic mail, or that used in many web service applications, whereby events are encapsulated into a message. The benefit would have been to provide information of an event to an end user, a proxy or web manager, or a system log.

In regard to dependent Claim 13, Bourne fails to explicitly teach that *said event is written in HTML or XML*. However, Bourne does deal with web content leading one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to conclude that the signal (event) taught

by Bourne would have likely been at least contained within an HTML or XML wrapper thus making the claim obvious.

In regard to dependent Claim 21, Bourne fails to teach *said event came from a trigger-based event generator*. However, Schloss teaches in that a Least-Recently-Used (LRU) algorithm which is usually trigger invoked (Col. 8, lines 36-38). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne and Schloss as both inventions relate to caching. Adding the teaching of Schloss provides the benefit of an additional triggering event to affect the contents of the cache.

In regard to dependent Claim 22, neither Bourne nor Schloss specifically teaches that *said event came from a polling event generator*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to use such an event generator, in light of the Bourne and Schloss inventions, providing the benefit of having had a way to periodically scan for changes to a database and then sending out an alert signal when a change had occurred.

In regard to dependent Claim 24, Bourne teaches *said determination if said event changes one of the page dependency data associated with said data page is done by a change event evaluator* in that Bourne has a cache coordinator, wherein the cache coordinator invalidates one or more cache entries in response to a signal (Col. 2, lines 49-50).

In regard to dependent Claim 25, Bourne teaches *said determination by the change event evaluator is done by matching said page dependency data with said*

event in the form of an ID-based invalidation process, wherein a cache entry is associated with an ID that uniquely identifies the cache entry and can optionally be associated with one or more data ids that represent the underlying data contained in the cache entry, and the ID-based invalidation process sends a signal to the cache coordinator to invalidate all cache entries that either have that cache entry ID or have been associated with a data ID when the data that the ID represents changes (Col. 2, lines 51-58).

In regard to dependent Claim 27, Bourne fails to explicitly teach *updating the cache involves keeping the index of URL addresses and page dependency data up-to-date*. However, Schloss teaches *said* in that a fragment cache manager that uses a Least-Recently-Used (LRU) type replacement policy (Col. 8, lines 36-38). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne and Schloss as both inventions relate to caching. Adding the teaching of Schloss provides the benefit of an additional triggering event to affect the contents of the cache.

In regard to independent Claim 28, Claim 28 reflects the method of storing data pages at a proxy, as claimed in Claim 1, and is rejected along the same rationale.

In addition, Schloss teaches (a) *a recordable media* and (b) *a program of computer-readable instructions executable by the computer to perform method steps comprising* in that software for execution on a computer or other processor-based device. The software may be embodied on a magnetic, electrical, optical, or other persistent program and/or data storage device, including but not limited to: magnetic

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disks, DASD, bubble memory; tape; optical disks such as CD-ROMs; and other persistent (also called non-volatile) storage devices such as core, ROM, PROM, flash memory, or battery backed RAM (Col. 10, lines 14-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne and Schloss as both inventions relate to caching. Adding the teaching of Schloss provides the benefit of hardware to perform the claimed method.

In regard to independent Claim 29, Claim 29 reflects the method of storing data pages at a proxy, as claimed in Claim 1, and is rejected along the same rationale.

In addition, Schloss teaches (a) *a central processing unit that can establish communication with a user computer* in that an Internet environment containing a client (60 ... 63) connected through a network (25) to access proxy servers (30 ... 33) or web content servers (40 ... 43) (Col. 3, lines 61-65; Fig. 1).

Schloss also teaches b) a storage device; (c) a processor connected to the storage device wherein the storage device stores: (i) at least one program component for controlling the processor; and (d) the processor is operative with said program component to in that that the computing node can include: a CPU (250); a scratch pad or main memory (245) such as RAM; and persistent storage devices (260) such as direct access storage devices (DASD). The memory (245) stores the server logic 240 (with details depicted in Fig. 6) preferably embodied as computer executable code that may be loaded from DASD (260) into memory (245) for execution by CPU (250) (Col. 4, lines 1-13). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne and Schloss as both inventions relate to

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caching. Adding the teaching of Schloss provides the benefit of hardware to perform the claimed method.

7. Claims 3-7, 10, 14-20, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bourne in view of Schloss and in further view of Batchelder et al. (hereinafter Batchelder, U.S. Patent No. 6,351,767).

In regard to dependent Claim 3, neither Bourne nor Schloss explicitly teach that *said page dependency data are generated by a Request-based dependency generator*. However, Batchelder teaches a URL Parser (303), which breaks the URL into different parts. The parsed URL is passed to the cache control unit (311) (Col. 7, lines 13-15). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder provides the benefit of specifying a URL-based event mechanism to change the status of a cache.

In regard to dependent Claim 4, neither Bourne nor Schloss specifically teaches that *said Request-Based dependency generator uses a URL request of the said data page*. However, Batchelder teaches a URL Parser (303) that breaks the URL into different parts. Specifically, commands to perform functions are added to the URL (after a question mark separator) (Col. 7, lines 12-27). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder provides the benefit of specifying a URL-based event mechanism to change the status of a cache.

In regard to dependent Claim 5, neither Bourne nor Schloss specifically teaches that *said Request-Based dependency generator uses a configuration file to generate said page dependency data*. However, Batchelder teaches that Fig. 5 depicts an example of a fragment description table for tracking the object fragment identity and its description. As depicted the table (505) includes a plurality of entries (507), where each table entry (507) points to a fragment description list (510) (only one shown for ease of description). The list (510) includes one or more description elements (520 and 525) (Col. 5, lines 66-67; Col. 6, lines 1-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions deal with issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder adds the benefit of tracking object fragment parameters.

In regard to dependent Claim 6, neither Bourne nor Schloss specifically teaches that *said page dependency data are generated by a script-based dependency generator*. However, Batchelder teaches that once the web page response is built by the response builder (307), it is passed to the HTML unit (305) for conversion to HTML. This HTML response is then passed to the HTTP server (206) for serving to the requesting user (Col. 7, lines 59-62). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder adds the benefit of having executed commands within software instead of typing them as part of a URL.

In regard to dependent Claim 7, neither Bourne nor Schloss teaches that *said page dependency data are encoded in the said data page by a script-based dependency generator*. However, Batchelder teaches that a response builder (307) uses the parsed URL to build the response by accessing the appropriate sources (via source access unit (308)) and retrieving the appropriate "parts" to construct the response. The parts retrieved by the response builder (307) may comprise many different types, including data, forms, subforms, database design elements, calculations, etc. In other words, there is no theoretical restriction as to the type of parts comprising a web page response. These parts each have their own attributes. For instance, some parts may or may not have last modified dates associated with the part. The attributes of all of the parts used to build the response are collected and analyzed by attribute analyzer (313). The attribute analyzer (313) builds a "composite" of the attributes, the attribute composite being representative of the entire response (Col. 7, lines 43-58). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder adds the benefit of having had server commands and page parameters together in one file.

In regard to dependent Claim 10, neither Bourne nor Schloss teaches that *said storing of said data page at the proxy is in response to data in a configuration file*. However, Batchelder teaches a cacheability analyzer (309) that examines the attribute composite and, if it determines that the response cannot be cached, the response is not

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cached. If it determines that the response can be cached, it provides an indication to the cache control unit (311), along with the response and an associated set of cache strategy indicators generated by the cacheability analyzer (309) (Col. 7, lines 64-67; Col. 8, lines 1-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder adds the benefit of enabling the determination of cacheability.

In regard to dependent Claim 14, neither Bourne nor Schloss specifically teaches that *said event came from a Request-based dependency generator*. However, Batchelder teaches a URL Parser (303), which breaks the URL into different parts. The parsed URL is passed to the cache control unit (311) (Col. 7, lines 13-15). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder adds the benefit of having provoked a change in the status of data pages on a server.

In regard to dependent Claim 15, neither Bourne nor Schloss specifically teaches that *said Request-Based dependency generator uses a configuration file*. However, Batchelder teaches that Fig. 5 depicts an example of a fragment description table for tracking the object fragment identity and its description. As depicted the table (505) includes a plurality of entries (507), where each table entry (507) points to a fragment description list (510) (only one shown for ease of description). The list (510) includes one or more description elements (520 and 525) (Col. 5, lines 66-67; Col. 6,

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lines 1-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder adds the benefit of having provoked a change in the status of data pages on a server.

In regard to dependent Claim 16, neither Bourne nor Schloss specifically teaches that *said Request-Based dependency generator uses a URL request of the said data page*. However, Batchelder teaches a URL Parser (303) that breaks the URL into different parts. Specifically, commands to perform functions are added to the URL (after a question mark separator) (Col. 7, lines 12-27). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder adds the benefit of having a means to have controlled the actions of a proxy or web server.

In regard to dependent Claim 17, neither Bourne nor Schloss specifically teaches that *said Request-Based dependency generator uses a URL request of the said data page*. However, Batchelder teaches a URL Parser (303) that breaks the URL into different parts. Specifically, commands to perform functions are added to the URL (after a question mark separator) (Col. 7, lines 12-27). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues

associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder adds the benefit of having a means to have controlled the actions of a proxy or web server.

In regard to dependent Claim 18, neither Bourne nor Schloss specifically teaches that *said URL request includes request header information*. However, Batchelder teaches sending server-specific commands requesting actions to be taken (Col. 7, lines 12-34). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder adds the benefit of having a means to have controlled the actions of a proxy or web server.

In regard to dependent Claim 19, neither Bourne nor Schloss specifically teaches that *said URL request is parsed to obtain parameters*. However, Batchelder teaches a URL Parser (303) that breaks the URL into different parts. Specifically, commands to perform functions are added to the URL (after a question mark separator) (Col. 7, lines 12-27). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder adds the benefit of having commanded a server to execute a given action, such as opening a database.

In regard to dependent Claim 20, neither Bourne nor Schloss specifically teaches that *said event came from a script-based dependency generator*. However, Batchelder teaches that once the web page response is built by the response builder

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(307), it is passed to the HTML unit (305) for conversion to HTML. This HTML response is then passed to the HTTP server (206) for serving to the requesting user (Col. 7, lines 59-62). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder adds the benefit to the user of not having had to remember a complicated URL by having it hard-coded.

In regard to dependent Claim 26, neither Bourne nor Schloss teaches that *said event generated by Request-Based event generator and sent to a change event evaluator*. However, Batchelder teaches that for those URLs having commands requesting a possibly cached response (i.e., ?OpenDatabase, ?OpenView, ?OpenDocument, ?OpenForm, and ?ReadForm), the cache control (311) examines the request against previously cached responses to determine whether any of the previously cached responses is appropriate for the request. It does this by comparing the parsed URL against the URLs of the previously cached responses in the cache (304). If there is not an exact match or if the URL doesn't have "cacheable" commands (e.g., ?EditDocument), the parsed URL is passed to the response builder (307) (Col. 7, lines 34-43). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Batchelder because all three of these inventions relate to issues associated with caching dynamic web content. Batchelder adds the benefit of having sent commands to the server.

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8. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bourne in view of Schloss, and in further view of Arlitt et al. (hereinafter Arlitt, U.S. Patent No. 6,272,598).

In regard to dependent Claim 23, neither Bourne nor Schloss specifically teaches that *said event came from a custom event generator*. However, Arlitt teaches that other known cache replacement policies may also be used for the cache (72) (Col. 7, lines 28-29). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Bourne, Schloss, and Arlitt because all three inventions deal with issues related to changing the contents of a cache, especially when it comes to dynamic content. Arlitt adds the benefit of having had other means to alert for changes that were unique.

9. Claims 30-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Challenger in view of Bourne.

In regard to independent Claim 30 (and similarly independent Claims 33, and 36), Challenger teaches *receiving an event indicating a change in a data source* in that whenever an application program (97) modifies a record(s) or learns about changes to a record, which could affect the value of a complex object in a cache, the application program (97) notifies the cache manager (1) of the record(s), which has been updated. The cache manager (1) then invalidates or updates all cached objects with dependencies on the record (s), which has changed (Col. 10, lines 14-24, Fig. 1c, Fig. 4). Challenger fails to explicitly teach *examining dependency data located inside the data page to determine if the data page depends on said data source*. However, Bourne teaches a cache coordinator that invalidates one or more cache entries in response to a signal (event). The cache entry is associated with an ID that uniquely identifies the cache entry and can optionally be associated with one or more data IDs that represent the underlying data contained in the cache entry (see Abstract). In this way, the teaching of Bourne offers the option of acting on dependency data within the data page using a unique ID that relates that data within the page to the cache coordinator. Though Bourne's teaching ultimately invalidates cache entries rather than updating them, Challenger suggests that both updating and invalidating the cache represents changes based on dependencies. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Challenger and Bourne as

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both inventions relate to caching. Adding the teaching of Bourne saves storage space by keeping dependency data within the document being cached.

In regard to dependent Claim 31 (and similarly dependent Claim 34),
Challenger teaches *said updating includes deleting the data page from the cache if said event indicates that said data source has been deleted* in that in Fig. 8 an example of logic for the delete-object (object-id, cache-id) (420) command. ... If in step 1107 the object (6) is found, in step 1110 the cache manager (1) deletes the objects associated record list (11) (Fig. 3) and updates the corresponding objects lists (8) (Fig. 2). The cache manager (1) scans each record ID (12) of the record list (11) (Fig. 3) corresponding to the object (6). Note that each record ID (12) on the record list (11) has a corresponding object list (8) (Fig. 2). Pointers to object id(s) (9) (Fig. 2) corresponding to the object (6) being deleted are removed from all such object lists (8). If this results in any object list (8) becoming empty, the corresponding hash table entry (25) is also deleted. After each element of the record list (11) is examined, it can be deleted. In step 1120, the object (6) is deleted from the object storage (4). In step 1130, the corresponding OIB (10) is deleted. Note that step 1120 can be performed concurrently with or before steps 1110 and 1130. In step 1140, the cache is unlocked and in step 1150, a status variable is returned to the application program (Col. 12, lines 44-67; Col. 131, lines 1-8).

In regard to dependent Claim 32 (and similarly dependent Claim 35),
Challenger teaches *said updating includes replacing the data page with an updated version of the data page if the event indicates that said data source has been updated*

in that in Fig. 1c the HTML pages, which are complex objects, are constructed from a database (99) and stored in Cache3. Each HTML page may have dependencies on one or more records which are portions of the database denoted Table1, Table2, ..., Table6. The correspondence between the tables and pages can be maintained by hash tables and record lists (19). For example, if the cache manager (1) were notified of a change to Table1 T1, it would invalidate (or update) Page1. Similarly, if the cache manager were notified of a change to Table2 T2, it would invalidate (or update) Page1, Page2, and Page3 (Col. 10, lines 25-35).

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10, and 12-36 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

In regard to Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 12, 13, 21, 22 and 27-29, among which Claims 1, 28, and 29 are independent claims, Applicant argues that neither Schloss nor Challenger teach or suggest "receiving a data page, wherein the data page includes page dependency data that contains one or more dependencies such that each dependency indicates an underlying data source which said data page is dependent on" as claimed in claim 1 as amended. The Examiner agrees and withdraws the rejection.

However, the Examiner makes a new rejection in the prior art of Bourne, in view of Schloss, which teaches the claimed limitations of Claims 1, 28, and 29.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James H. Blackwell whose telephone number is 571-272-4089. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather R. Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

06/21/05


HEATHER R. HERNDON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100